



**Executive Board of the
United Nations Entity
for Gender Equality and the
Empowerment of Women**

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**Decisions adopted by the Executive Board of the
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the
Empowerment of Women at its 2014 sessions**

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Decisions

2014/1

Harmonization of reporting cycles

The Executive Board,

Recalls General Assembly resolutions 64/289 and 67/226 and further to Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/5, requests the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) to consolidate the report on operational activities and the report on the implementation of the strategic plan into one report to be presented at its annual session, starting from 2014.

20 January 2014

2014/2

Report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director on progress made on the strategic plan, 2011-2013, including operational activities in 2013

The Executive Board,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director on the progress made on the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women strategic plan, 2011-2013, including operational activities in 2013;¹

2. *Welcomes* the achievements made in the implementation of the first UN-Women strategic plan, 2011-2013,² as described in the report;

3. *Commends* UN-Women for the stronger results focus in the report, and further encourages UN-Women to continue to improve its results reporting, including reflections on lessons learned in the first progress report on the implementation of the strategic plan, 2014-2017, to be presented at the annual session of 2015;

4. *Takes note* of the efforts by UN-Women to include the mandates of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review on operational activities for development of the United Nations system³ in its work;

5. *Requests* UN-Women to present to the Executive Board, at an informal meeting during the second regular session of 2014, an outline of the format of, and the information that will be provided in, the annual report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director;

6. *Takes note with concern* of the ongoing funding gap and urges all countries in a position to do so to increase their voluntary contributions, especially to regular resources, and requests UN-Women to further improve its efficiency,

¹ UNW/2014/2.

² UNW/2011/9.

³ General Assembly resolution 67/226.

effectiveness, transparency and accountability to ensure full implementation of the strategic plan 2014-2017;⁴

7. *Decides* to transmit the report to the Economic and Social Council.

19 June 2014

2014/3 Report on the evaluation function, 2013

The Executive Board,

1. *Takes note* of the report on the evaluation function of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, 2013,⁵ and the programme of work for 2014 of the independent Evaluation Office;⁶

2. *Welcomes* the efforts made by UN-Women and the progress achieved in systematic strengthening of the evaluation function;

3. *Also welcomes* the progress of UN-Women in leading system-wide gender evaluation efforts and the active involvement of the Entity in joint evaluations, and requests UN-Women to continue to present to the Executive Board joint evaluation reports and management response to joint evaluations;

4. *Requests* UN-Women to continue to strengthen its evaluation capacities and to allocate adequate human and financial resources to the Evaluation Office and the overall evaluation function;

5. *Emphasizes* that programme countries should have greater ownership and leadership in the evaluation of all forms of assistance, and requests UN-Women, in cooperation with other United Nations system organizations, to continue its efforts to facilitate the building of national evaluation capacities, where applicable;

6. *Commends* the efforts of UN-Women in fostering innovative partnerships for national evaluation capacity development;

7. *Requests* UN-Women to present a separate budget line for evaluation activities in the integrated budget for the biennium 2016-2017, to be considered by the Executive Board at its second regular session of 2015;

8. *Also requests* UN-Women to enhance the use of management response to evaluations and lessons learned from evaluations;

9. *Requests* the independent Evaluation Office to continue to pursue United Nations system-wide gender evaluation efforts, including through innovative partnerships.

19 June 2014

⁴ UNW/2013/6.

⁵ UNW/2014/3.

⁶ *Ibid.*, sect. V.

2014/4

Report on internal audit and investigation activities for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013

The Executive Board,

1. *Takes note* of the report on internal audit and investigation activities for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013;⁷
2. *Expresses* its continuing support for the audit and investigation functions provided by the Office of Audit and Investigations;⁸
3. *Takes note* of the report of the Audit Advisory Committee and the management response thereto;⁹
4. *Notes with appreciation* UN-Women efforts to implement outstanding recommendations from previous reports and encourages UN-Women management to achieve the timely, full, complete and sustained implementation of all outstanding and new audit recommendations;
5. *Encourages* UN-Women to complement its regional architecture and organizational decentralization with effective oversight controls throughout the organization and with the comprehensive training necessary to fulfil management oversight and risk management responsibilities, as appropriate;
6. *Requests* UN-Women to present a separate budget line for internal audit and investigation activities in the integrated budget for the biennium 2016-2017, to be considered by the Executive Board at its second regular session of 2015;
7. *Also requests* UN-Women to present to the Executive Board, at its second regular session of each year, the annual report of the Board of Auditors;
8. *Further requests* UN-Women to incorporate in future reports information on the number, nature and outcomes of investigation cases conducted by the Office of Audit and Investigations.

19 June 2014

2014/5

Election of the Bureau of the Executive Board

The Executive Board,

1. *Encourages* regional groups to nominate candidates for the Bureau by the end of November of each year;
2. *Decides* to convene in early January of each year, starting in 2015, the first meeting of its first regular session, for the sole purpose of electing a new President and other members of the Bureau, in accordance with rule 7 of the rules of procedure.¹⁰

16 September 2014

⁷ UNW/2014/4.

⁸ Of the United Nations Development Programme.

⁹ UNW/2014/4/Add.1.

¹⁰ See UNW/2011/6.

2014/6

Structured dialogue on financing

The Executive Board,

1. *Recalls* its endorsement of the strategic plan, 2014-2017,⁴ including its development results framework and organizational effectiveness and efficiency framework, and reiterates its commitment to work with UN-Women to mobilize all required resources for its implementation;

2. *Notes* the importance of regular resources, which form the bedrock of the organization as they allow UN-Women to plan ahead, be strategic and responsive, strengthen accountability, transparency and oversight, advance United Nations coherence and coordination and provide predictable assistance in the field of gender equality and the empowerment of women;

3. *Urges* Member States in a position to do so, to commit, as early as possible, contributions to UN-Women regular resources for 2014 and onwards, if possible through multi-year pledges;

4. *Notes* the critical need to ensure the predictability and alignment to the strategic plan of contributions to other resources, which comprise a significant complement to the regular resource base;

5. *Notes* the efforts of UN-Women to broaden its donor base, including through new strategic partnerships with a wide range of partners;

6. *Recognizes* that UN-Women started at its inception with a low base of funding, and requests the Entity to continue to improve its effectiveness and efficiency including, as it grows, through maintaining management costs at an acceptable level, and to further strengthen its transparency and accountability in an effort to strengthen development results;

7. *Recalls* its decision 2013/2,¹¹ and in this regard encourages UN-Women, in the context of the planned review of the new cost-recovery methodology and the related rates in 2016, to propose adjustments, as required, for the consideration of the Executive Board, that may strengthen the incentives for providing more predictable core funding and more predictable and less earmarked non-core funding;

8. *Requests* UN-Women, through a dialogue with the Executive Board, to continue to explore incentives, mechanisms and funding windows to broaden the donor base and to encourage donors to increase their core contributions as well as to shift to less earmarked non-core funding, and towards this end requests the Entity to present to the Board a strategic brief for resource mobilization for consideration at its second regular session of 2015;

9. *Decides* to engage, on an annual basis, during the second regular session of the Executive Board, in a structured dialogue on financing with Member States to monitor and follow up on the level of funding, in particular of regular resources, as well as predictability, flexibility and alignment of other resources provided for the implementation of the strategic plan, 2014-2017, including information on funding gaps.

16 September 2014

¹¹ See UNW/2013/11.